

11 Jack Gillies Papers.

SAN FRANCISCO—MARK TWAIN.  
Mark Twain is about thirty years old last May, stands 5 feet 8 and one quarter inches, is the best descriptive humorist living, smokes 40 cigars a day, shorns to part his hair in the middle, don't show many dimpled rings, has got a monocle mustache, loves woman as she is, likes dogs, and eschews liquor.

He eats rare boiled eggs, wears number 7 hats, and can quill a penman at a minute's notice, as full of sharp things as a porcupine's back.

He is so good (where he lives) at gin and milk, but is a charming later.

He is married, an all good jokes are, they all know there ain't no humor in a cat bedded.

He lives in Buffalo, and what is most wonderful, and the hardest to understand, is said to be rich. Wealthy humorists are scarce to be had; they generally invest all on their houses as they go along in the common occurrences of the day.

Report says he won't lecture no more. I hope report lies (for once in its life) for Mark Twain, before an audience, is as easy to understand as st-mulberries and cream.

His late book, called "Innocence Abroad," is the most delicious history, and at the same time, is as full of devilry as Gallivir's travels.

Mark Twain i don't think is college last; he has learnt what he knows by seeing it did, and can tell what tree will make shingles by looking at the bark.

He is like all other genuine humorists, don't do the laughing himself, and really much prefers to say a good thing rather than a funny one.

He has no more humor in his looks than a fiddle has.

He don't use profane language, although I think now I have heard him use the pronoun "dam," but if my memory recollects herself, at that particular time the conversation was about saw mills.

I believe he is not a church member, but my impression is that his religion lies deep.

All genuine humorists (although fun in their game, and although they believe that even virtue has a ridiculous side to her) have in their bottom nature many places where they knell down (in private) and say good things in a low tone.

I love a zealous christian, one who holds virtue; but I have come to the conclusion (in late years) that the Lord nint deaf, and that all the real piety in this world nint kept in ranks.

But I may be mistaken about this; it is just my darn luck.

I am not a bosom friend of Mark Twain, because he don't know me well enough to take me into his bosom. We never met but three or four times, but there wasn't no time wasted in inquiring after each other's families; we both went in to win, and I am certain he was me.

I think how I could endorse Mark, (I don't mean his note, for I have quit all kinds of gambling); he seems to me to have (with all the meritorious eccentricities of his nature) a spot for me.

He has told me that he is my friend, (I wo'tt affer his mind); for there aint nothing on earth (I want except bears) that I fear more than I do those whom I think don't love me.

There is great strength to some men, no doubt, in having plenty of haters; it elaborates his gall, but I am one of those unangusine creatures who sweat easy, and who had rather have a lamb follow him home than frozen recognition from a railroad president.

Mark Twain has great wit; he has great literary pretension, but he is a poor punster, and he ought to be thankful, for that, for there aint nothing (unless it is three-cent gin) that is more demoralizing than punning. It is full as bad a habit as whistling, and full as often a substi-tute for thought.

Good-bye, Mark Twain. Let me advise you to forgive the liberty I have taken in this sketch, and also let me ask you (in behalf of my neighbors) to keep before the world with your rare bits of humor, for there is great need for such as you.

But don't expect too much pay; Mark, for there is one thing that can't be explained, and that is, those who make us laugh the most are like fiddlers, paid off grudgingly in the morning, and then kicked out doors.

According to the annual report of General Sherman, the following is shown to be the present strength of the army:

Ten cavalry regiments, 9882 men. Five artillery regiments, 4205 men.

Twenty-five infantry regiments, 16,481 men.

Engineer's battalion, 560.

Ordnance department, 706.

West Point detachment, 251.

Signal detachment, 182.

Hospital steward, 382.

Ordnance sergeants, 121.

Permanent and recruiting par-

titions, and recruits not available for assignment, 1010.

General service men on duty in bureaus of the War Department, army headquarters, etc., 276.

Available recruits at depots, 743.

Total, 34,870.

Commissioned Officers—total for all branches of the service, 2488.

This number must be reduced to 2277 before January 1, 1871, and the number of enlisted men must be reduced to 30,000 before July 1st, 1871.

A little fellow going to church for the first time where the pews were very high said on coming out, "I went into a cupboard and took a seat on the shelf."

An afflicted husband was returning from the funeral of his wife, when a friend asked him how he was. "Well," said he pathetically, "I think I feel better for that little walk."

A gentleman named Brown once observed in company that he had toasted a lady for twelve months, and yet had little hopes of ever making her Brown.

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